99TH CONGRESS
2d Session
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPORT
99-487

OLDER AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1986

MARCH 10, 1986.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HAWKINS, from the committee of conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 2453]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2453) to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to increase the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1985, 1986, and 1987 for commodity distribution, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment insert the following:

That this Act may be cited as the "Older Americans Act Amendments of 1986".

COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE PER MEAL

SEC. 2. Section 311(a)(4) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030a(a)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking out "15 cents" and all that follows through "30 cents per meal for", and inserting in lieu thereof "56.76 cents per meal during fiscal year 1986 and during", and

(2) by striking out "June 30, 1975" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1986".

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 3. (a) There is authorized to be appropriated $127,800,000 for fiscal year 1985, in order to provide reimbursement at the level of 56.76 cents per meal during fiscal year 1985, determined under sec-

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tion 311(a)(4) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030a(a)(4)), for meals served under section 311 of such Act in such fiscal year. For purposes of subsections (a) and (b) of section 311 of such Act, the sum authorized to be appropriated by this subsection shall be deemed to have been authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1985 by section 311(c)(1) of such Act. For purposes of section 311(c)(1)(B) of such Act, the date of the enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be the last day of each quarter of fiscal year 1985 for which reimbursement is claimed.

(b) Subparagraph (A) of section 311(c)(1) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030a(c)(1)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

"(A)(i) There are authorized to be appropriated $144,000,000 for fiscal year 1986 and $144,000,000 for fiscal year 1987 to carry out this section (other than subsection (a)(1)).

"(ii) The provisions of the second and third sentences of subsection (a)(4) shall not apply for fiscal years 1986 and 1987.".

INFORMATION REGARDING FEDERAL FOOD PROCESSING PROGRAMS

SEC. 4. Section 311 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030a) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(d) In each fiscal year, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall jointly disseminate to State agencies, area agencies on aging, and providers of nutrition services assisted under this title, information concerning—

"(1) the existence of any Federal commodity processing program in which such State agencies, area agencies, and providers may be eligible to participate; and

"(2) the procedures to be followed to participate in the program.".

EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 5. This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on October 1, 1985.

And the Senate agree to the same.

AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS,
DALE E. KILDEE,
MAJOR R. OWENS,
CARL C. PERKINS,
TERRY L. BRUCE,
DENNIS E. ECKART,
JAMES M. JEFFORDS,
TOM COLEMAN,
TOM PETRI,
TOM TAUKE,
Managers on the part of the House.

ORRIN HATCH,
CHUCK GRASSLEY,
PAULA HAWKINS,
EDWARD M. KENNEDY,
SPARK MATSUNAGA,
Managers on the part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2453) to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to increase the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1985, 1986, and 1987 for commodity distribution, and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report:

The Senate amendment struck out all of the House bill after the enacting clause and inserted a substitute text.

The House recedes from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate with an amendment which is a substitute for the House bill and the Senate amendment. The differences between the House bill, the Senate amendment, and the substitute agreed to in conference are noted below, except for clerical corrections, conforming changes made necessary by agreements reached by the conferees, and minor drafting and clarifying changes.

EARLY NOTIFICATION TO THE STATES

Senate amendment

The Senate bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture to notify states early (at the beginning of the 2nd and 3rd quarter of each fiscal year) when appropriated amounts are insufficient, and reductions are required in the cents per meal reimbursement as established.

House bill

No provision.

Conference agreement

The Senate recedes.

The conferees are aware that the Secretary of Agriculture has been providing such notification through the Federal Register in approximately this time frame, and strongly urge that this practice be continued. However, the conferees determined that placing this requirement in the statute was not necessary at this time.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

House bill

The House bill provides authorization for such sums as may be necessary to provide reimbursement at the level of 56.76 cents per meal for fiscal year 1985.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment authorizes $127.8 million for this purpose.

Conference agreement

The House recedes.

House bill

The House bill provides authorization for such sums as may be necessary to carry out provisions of section.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment authorizes $144 million for each of fiscal years 1986 and 1987.

Conference agreement

The House recedes.

ADJUSTMENT OF REIMBURSEMENT RATE IN FY 1987

House bill

The House bill provides for an adjustment in the reimbursement rate for fiscal year 1987 based on the Consumer Price Index for meals away from home.

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment would maintain the reimbursement rate at 56.76 cents per meal through fiscal year 1987.

Conference agreement

The House recedes.

FEDERAL FOOD PROCESSING PROGRAM

House bill

The House bill requires dissemination of information on programs "from time to time".

Senate amendment

The Senate amendment requires dissemination of information and participation procedures "each fiscal year".

Conference agreement

The House recedes.

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